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FOREIGN AND INSULAR.

BELGIUM.

Report from Antwerp.

ANTWERP, *May 22, 1900.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that during the week ended May 19, 1900, bills of health were issued to 7 vessels, 6 of which carried cargo, bound from Antwerp to ports in the United States.

On the 17th instant, steamship *Nederland* sailed for Philadelphia, carrying 495 steerage passengers; there was 1 rejection because of suspected tuberculosis.

On the 19th instant, steamship *Noordland* sailed for New York, carrying 1,110 steerage and 49 cabin passengers. At the examination held previous to sailing, 10 third-class passengers were rejected. There was no evidence of the presence of quarantinable diseases among the passengers or crews of either of these vessels.

Respectfully,

E. K. SPRAGUE,

Passed Assistant Surgeon, U. S. M. H. S.

The SURGEON-GENERAL,

U. S. Marine Hospital Service.

BRAZIL.

Reports from Rio de Janeiro—Plague imported from Oporto.

RIO DE JANEIRO, *April 28, 1900.*

Plague at Rio de Janeiro.

SIR: On the last cases of plague observed here I beg to report as follows:

On April 4 there arrived here on the steamship *Clyde* from Oporto via Lisbon a man with his wife and child and they took up their residence at the Harmonia Place in a room already occupied by many other persons. Those new arrivals brought soiled linen and other clothing, and after their arrival it was taken from their trunk. Shortly after it, on the 8th instant, some of the tenants were taken ill, and the first death that occurred was classified by the physicians as having been caused by lymphatitis perniciosa. A few days later there occurred a similar fatal case. As then more cases of the disease occurred, among which were those of both children of the newly arrived couple (1 of whom had already been here for some time) and 1 of them being fatal, the attention of the authorities was called to the facts. The patients strongly suspected of suffering from plague were taken to the isolation hospital. All persons who had been in contact with them were put under observation, the respective and neighboring buildings were in part destroyed, in part thoroughly disinfected. The bacteriological examination verified the exact diagnosis of plague.

Therefore I sent to you on the 26th the following dispatch:

"There have been 6 cases of plague at Rio de Janeiro, fatal, 3;